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THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) The buildings in the Government Estate were handed over by the Governor to the Government, Public Works Department, on various dates from 25th June 1946 to 1st October 1953.

(*b*) The Government Estate, Mount Road, was handed over by the Governor to the Government for use in whatever way the Government considered would be in the best interests of the public, subject to the following conditions :—

(i) Since the facilities in the Government House, Guindy, were insufficient and certain establishments and portions of staff were housed at Mount Road in parts of the Estate, the necessary construction should take place at Guindy as soon as possible and meanwhile the buildings in question (Mount Road) should remain occupied.

(ii) The various welfare organizations occupying buildings in the Mount Road Estate (e.g., Guild of Service) should be given reasonable notice to move; and

(iii) The Governor should have a lien on the use of the Rajaji Hall for special occasions, when he may require the use of it.

These three conditions were accepted by the then Chief Minister, Sri T. Prakasam.

It was then intended that the Banqueting Hall (Rajaji Hall) should be utilized for holding the sessions of the Legislature but later this was not found feasible, when expert opinions of the Chief Engineer, P.W.D., and the Consulting Architect to the Government were obtained.

* 2600 Q.—SRI P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM (on behalf of Sri M. Manickasundaram) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any standard rent has been fixed for each residential quarter in Government Estate;

(*b*) whether rent lower than the standard rent is collected from any category of occupiers;

(*c*) whether rent higher than the standard rent is collected from any category of occupiers; and

(*d*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) No, except (i) five Government servants occupying quarters reserved for the posts held by them and who pay rent at 10 per cent of their emoluments or standard rent plus service tax, whichever is less;

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(ii) three persons who pay rent equal to 20 per cent of their basic pay which is higher than the rate of rent ordinarily recoverable from Government servants, viz., 10 per cent of emoluments; and

(iii) twelve persons in whose case the question of recovering the standard rent plus service tax in lieu of rent at 10 per cent of their emoluments, is already under consideration.

(*c*) Yes, from Members of the Legislature.

(*d*) The higher rent is recoverable from Members of the Legislature as for non-Government servants with reference to the provisions in the Public Works Department Code.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: May I know whether the staff of the Assembly Secretariat have applied for any quarters within the Estate. Since it is in close proximity to the Assembly Office, it will enable them to turn out 100 per cent work both during day and night, especially during night sittings, if residential quarters are made available to them.

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: All can apply but there is a priority list kept up. According to that list, vacancies are filled up as soon as they fall vacant.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: In view of their constant presence in the Assembly at all kinds of hours—8 o'clock, 9 o'clock and during the night—will the priority list be revised so as to give preference to the Legislature Secretariat staff?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: I am afraid that is a new suggestion. A priority list is already existing. As soon as quarters fall vacant, they are given to persons who have applied earlier according to that list. Therefore, I do not think that any such distinction could be made now in respect of that matter.

SRI M. PALANIYANDI: கவர்மெண்டு எஸ்டேட்டுக்குள் இருக்கும் வீடுகள் ரொம்பவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. ரொம்ப வயதான சட்டசபை மெம்பர்கள் தங்கள் இல்லத்தோடு வந்து இங்கே தங்க பிரியப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அதிகமான வீடுகள் கட்ட முன் வருவார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: The hon. Member may put the suggestion for building houses to my collegue, the Finance Minister.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Since the very object of the Government House Estate being placed at the disposal of the Assembly is to look after the convenience of the Members of the Assembly, will the Hon. Minister extend that principle also to the staff of the Legislature by allowing them priority and revising the list as suggested by the hon. Member, Sri Krishna Ayyar?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: The surmise of the hon. Member does not arise from the answer I have read.

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SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : In the case of legislators, a rent higher than the standard rent is collected from them. So, will the Government see that legislators are not descriminated against and only standard rent is collected from them also?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : That is a new suggestion. Legislators are treated along with non-officials and even in respect of private residential accommodation, they are treated like that.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is it a fact that a high Government official whose services have been lent to the Andhra Government, is still living inside the Government House Estate and though he has been served with a notice to shift his quarters to any suitable place in the City of Madras, he is refusing to shift it in spite of so many reminders?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : I am not aware of such a thing but if the hon. Member could bring any specific instance to my notice, I shall have it looked into.

Harijan Welfare Schools

* 2601 *Q.*—SRI P. G. MANICKAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Harijan Welfare Schools in the Coimbatore district; and

(*b*) the number of Harijan children who are supplied mid-day meals in such schools?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) 24.

(*b*) About 795 daily.

SRI P. G. MANICKAM : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் லேபர் ஸ்கூல்கள் அதிகமாக இல்லை. ஆனால் மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களில் அதிகமாக இருக்கின்றன. இப்பொழுதுதான் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் கடந்த 5, 6 ஆண்டுகளாக சில பள்ளிகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. மத்தியான சாப்பாடு எங்கெங்கே லேபர் பள்ளிக் கூடங்கள் இருக்கின்றனவோ அங்கங்கே தான் கொடுக்கப்படும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். லேபர் ஸ்கூல் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் அதிகம் இல்லாததினால் பள்ளிக்குச் செல்லும் பெரும்பாலான ஹரிஜன மாணவர் களுக்கு மத்தியான உணவு கிடைப்பதில்லை. ஆகவே கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் அதிக லேபர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை ஆரம்பிக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வருவார்களா ? அதோடு புதியதாக லேபர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை ஆரம்பிக்கக் கூடாதென்று போட்டிருக்கிற சட்டத்தையும் தளர்த்தி கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்த வரையிலுமாவது தளர்த்தி அதிக பள்ளிகளை அந்த ஜில்லாவில் ஆரம்பிக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா என்று அறிய விரும் புகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : எங்கெங்கு ஹரிஜனப் பிள்ளைகள் படிப்பதற்கு வசதியில்லமால் இருக்கின்றதோ அங்கெல்லாம் லேபர் ஸ்கூல்கள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. எங்கெங்கே ஜில்லா போர்டு ஸ்கூல்கள் இருக்கின்றனவோ அங்கங்கே அந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்